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REMARKS

In the final Office Action dated March 7, 2007, the Examiner allowed claims 1-10 and 24 and maintained the rejection of claims 12-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Subramaniam in view of Steiner et al., hereinafter Steiner. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-10 and 24, and respectfully requests the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claims 12-23 in light of the following remarks.

In the final Office Action, the Examiner asserted that Subramaniam creates a secure connection between the border server and external client and that the user is authenticated by any of various forms. However, it is respectfully asserted that the secure connection between the border server and external client in Subramaniam is accomplished by changing a signal from HTTP to HTTPS. This format limits a client's connection to only one server. Regardless of whether or not Kerberos-based authentication is introduced during this step, according to the teachings of Subramaniam, the user's access is secured by changing the signal from HTTP to HTTPS and is thereby limited to only one server. The privilege server of the present invention is used not only to authenticate users but also to authorize and share authorization with different servers involved in the system. The privilege server in the present invention allows the possibility of connecting to multiple proxy servers.

The security aspect taught in the Subramaniam reference lies in changing the protocol from HTTP to HTTPS. For this secure connection protocol, there is no use for generating and encrypting tickets or tokens as in a Kerberos-based system. Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that there is no motivation to combine Subramaniam with Kerberos-based principles because the security of the network as taught in Subramaniam is directly related to the modification of

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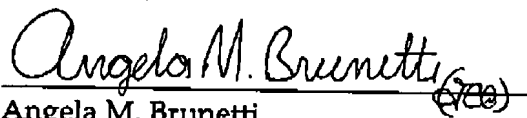
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URL's once a user has been validated and there is no need for the application of the generation of tickets and tokens.

It is respectfully requested the Examiner reconsider the rejection of the present application in light of the amendments and remarks herein to withdraw the rejection of claims 12-23 and issue a formal Notice of Allowance for claims 1-10 and 12-24. Should the Examiner remain unconvinced by the present response, it is respectfully requested that he contact the undersigned in order to discuss any possible amendments to the claims that may bring them into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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